

## Message Text

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EXIM - MR. WIGG

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R 252224Z APR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 096579

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EEWT, EMAE, OVIP, RO

SUBJECT: AVRAM VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES

1. MINISTER AVRAM, IN COMPANY OF AMBASSADOR BOGDAN AND COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR FODOR, MET WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF COMMERCE DOBBIN ON APRIL 17. AVRAM BEGAN DISCUSSION BY BRIEFLY DESCRIBING HIS MEETINGS WITH U.S. COMPANIES. HE STATED THAT A NUMBER OF CONTRACTS AND PROTOCOLS HAD BEEN CONCLUDED, BUT PROBLEMS HAD ARISEN WITH RESPECT TO TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY. AVRAM THEN ASKED THAT COMMERCE ASSIST U.S. FIRMS SECURE QUICK APPROVAL FOR LICENSES REQUIRED FOR EXPORT TO ROMANIA. AVRAM MENTIONED NEGOTIATIONS WITH WESTINGHOUSE, GE, AND SEVERAL CANADIAN FIRMS FOR PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT AND DOCUMENTATION IN FIELD OF NUCLEAR ENERGY. THE MINISTER STRESSED THAT SUCH TRANSACTIONS, HOWEVER, COULD PROCEED ONLY FOLLOWING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE U.S. AND ROMANIA.

2. AVRAM TURNED NEXT TO MFN, EMPHASIZING FACT THAT ROMANIA WAS THE FIRST COUNTRY TO SIGN A TRADE AGREEMENT UNDER THE NEW TRADE ACT. HE STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF MFN  
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FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF U.S.-ROMANIAN RELATIONS. LATER IN DISCUSSION AVRAM RELATED HIS IMPRESSION THAT U.S. COMPANIES WERE AWAITING CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL OF TRADE

AGREEMENT BEFORE PROCEEDING FURTHER WITH ROMANIANS.

3. WHEN QUESTIONED AS TO ROMANIAN PREFERENCES FOR TIMING OF COMMISSION MEETING, BOGDAN EMPHASIZED THAT THIS WOULD DEPEND UPON THE APPROVAL OF THE TRADE AGREEMENT.

4. AVRAM HAD BRIEF INFORMAL MEETING WITH EXIM VICE-CHAIRMAN SAUER. AVRAM HIGHLIGHTED VISIT TO US, REFERRING TO AGREEMENT CONCLUDED WITH CLARK EQUIPMENT AND OTHER CONTACTS. PLACED NEED FOR US FINANCING OVER NEXT THREE YEARS FOR HIS MINISTRY'S IMPORT AT ABOUT \$100 MILLION. IN RESPONSE TO QUERY REGARDING EXIM RESUMPTION OF BUSINESS WITH ROMANIA, SAUER STATED EXIM IS PREPARED TO RECEIVE APPLICATIONS FOLLOWING ISSUANCE OF PRESIDENTIAL WAIVER AND PROCEED WITH CONSIDERATION OF ROMANIAN APPLICATION IN PARALLEL WITH APPROVAL PROCESS OF TRADE AGREEMENT.

5. AVRAM ALSO HAD TALKS WITH STRIDENT AND OPIC PRESIDENT MAYS. AVRAM AND ROMANIAN EMBASSY OFFICERS STATED THAT AVRAM WAS EXTREMELY PLEASED WITH US VISIT. BUSINESS-LIKE ATTITUDE OF US FIRMS IMPRESSED HIM FAVORABLY AND TALKS WITH USG OFFICIALS PROVIDED APPROPRIATE CAPSTONE TO VISIT. EMBASSY OFFICER STATED THAT AVRAM BELIEVES OVER LONG TERM OPIC WILL ASSUME SPECIAL IMPORTANCE IN US-ROMANIAN ECONOMIC RELATIONS IN PROMOTION "HIGHER TYPE" ECONOMIC RELATIONS ROMANIA WISHES TO FOSTER.

6. ASIDE FROM TWO AGREEMENTS MENTIONED BUCHAREST 1793 WE ARE NOT AWARE OF ANY SPECIFIC AGREEMENTS SIGNED DURING VISIT. PROTOCOLS ARE PRIMARILY AGREEMENTS TO HAVE FURTHER DISCUSSIONS RATHER THAN CONCRETE AGREEMENTS. PROTOCOL WITH FARREL MACHINERY PROVIDING FOR DISCUSSION OF COOPERATION IN CERTAIN MACHINE TOOLS ESPECIALLY PLEASED AVRAM SINCE ROMANIANS HAD BEEN UNABLE PREVIOUSLY

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TO REACH THIS STAGE OF DISCUSSION ON THESE ITEMS. SEPTEL ON GE STATUS WILL BE SENT APRIL 28.

7. EMBASSY OFFICER NOTED THAT AVRAM STRESSED NECESSITY FOR FOLLOW-UP. HE INDICATED HE WOULD TAKE PERSONAL INTEREST IN FOLLOW-UP AND WILL EXPECT ROMANIAN COMMERCIAL OFFICE TO BE ACTIVE IN THIS REGARD. KISSINGER

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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